

AHBA Installs New Board and Bestows Honors

The Acadian Home Builders Association (AHBA) held its Annual Awards & Installation Banquet on Thursday, November 17th where the 2012 Board of Directors and Executive Committee members were installed. Also at the event, several outstanding members were recognized with the organization's most distinguished awards.

The 2012 AHBA Board of Directors will include David Anderson, Steve Ashy Sr., John Barras, Brian Blanchard, Larry Comeaux, Mike Cottam, Mark Gallagher, Earl Lattier, Greg Manuel, Melva McCann, Brady Mills, Glen Robison, Bill Schoeffler, Doug Trahan, and Jeff Wood. They will be led by the 2012 Executive Committee: President Mike Thompson, Vice-President Pam Weaver, Treasurer Phil Melancon, Secretary Mac Gibson, Associate Vice-President Carol Ross, and Immediate Past President Kay Gibson.

Every year, the Annual Awards & Installation Banquet is also shared with the Professional Women in Building, which is a supporting organization of AHBA. Their newly installed Executive Committee includes President Melanie Short, Vice-President Claire Disch, Treasurer Angie Schexnaider, Secretary Sherry Gregg, Immediate Past President Melva McCann, and Public Relations Coordinator Meagan Rabalais.

During the awards portion of the evening, Glen Robison of Brokers-Givens Insurance received the Big SPIKE award for recruiting the most new members during 2011. Gerald Leger of Cajun Wood Products, Don Pippin of Fast Signs and Riley Landry of Eagle Pest Control & Chemical were also recognized for their recruitment efforts throughout the year.

The Professional Women in Building (PWB) granted their 2011 Woman of the Year Award to Sherry Gregg of Teche Electric Supply. Over the past few years, Sherry has demonstrated genuine enthusiasm and involved herself in all of PWB's activities, including spearheading the Boogie Nights fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity.

The Associate of the Year Award was bestowed on Jodie Parker of Batteries Plus who has been highly involved in AHBA for the last couple years. He is always willing to help the association with tasks both big and small and serves on several event committees. Jodie was also chairman of the 2011 Crawfish Boil Planning Committee.

AHBA's esteemed Builder of the Year was awarded to Phil Melancon of Greatwood Homes. Phil is dedicated to the home building industry in Acadiana and serves on the Louisiana Home Builders Association's as well as AHBA's Board of Directors. He is always active in the Parade of Homes and has served on the Parade Governing Board for several years. Recently, Phil built the 2011 Home for the Holidays which will be raffled off for charity on December 7th.

Finally, AHBA's highest honor, the Randolph Trappey Distinguished Service Award, was given to Brian Blanchard of Central Mortgage Services. Brian has dedicated years of service to AHBA and the housing industry, and has served a record-breaking nine consecutive years on the AHBA Board of Directors. He also bravely spent five years representing the association on Lafayette Consolidated Government's Planning and Zoning Commission.